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PUBLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS IN THE INTERESTS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Vol. 3 No. 8

EDMONTON, ALBERTA

August, 1958

TRAINING COURSES NEAR READINESS

COVER THREE YEARS

Assessing officers in Alberta will be offered a three year course of training rather than a two year course as originally announced. It has been decided that two years would not provide sufficient time to cover the material and the subjects considered essential for a well-rounded training program.

The following release by Donald A. Bancroft, Instructor in public administration with the Department of Extension of the University of Alberta, sets forth details of the course presentation and an outline of subjects to be studied in each of the three years comprising the new training course for assessors:

OPERATIONAL METHOD

As presently planned the course for assessing officers will be offered on a modified correspondence basis. The printed lesson material with reference texts and supplementary materials will be assembled in kits and mailed out to participating students. Each lesson will contain material sufficient to engage the student's extra time for a week. (Presumably about 6-10 hours of reading and study). The student will work by himself but must move ahead through successive lessons according to a pre-arranged calendar.

At intervals of 4 to 6 weeks the Instructor will travel to regional points throughout the province and there meet with groups of students from the surrounding areas. At these regional meetings a discussion of problems, a review of lesson material and some sort of quizzing program will be carried out. It will be necessary that each student should keep up to the calendar of studies in order that these tutorial sessions will be of value to him. At the end of each annual term of lessons an intensive short course and seminar session will be held either at the various regional points or at one central point (such as the University) and this will be followed by one or more major examinations covering the full term's work.

(More on Page 5)

BANFF SCHOOL MEET

From June 12 to 14, 1958, some hundred and twenty school secretaries, trustees, and county councillors assembled at the Banff School of Fine Arts for their 14th annual refresher course in school administration. For a number of sessions, school board and committee members met with secretaries to hear talks on school affairs and discuss topics of common interest. The Honorable A. O. Aalborg, Minister of Education, gave the first address, outlining the new system of school grants, which was followed by a period on the application of school grant regulations, presented by Mr. A. Bredo, of the Department of Education.

Dr. J. W. Chalmers, recently appointed Director of School Administration for the Department, spoke on school surveys. He stated that such surveys are ordinarily undertaken only on request of the school board concerned, and to secure answers to such questions as the school trustees raise. Reports of such surveys are by no means binding on the school boards, but are often valuable in assisting school boards in their immediate or long-range school planning. Normally such surveys are joint activities of the two principal divisions of the Department, those under the Chief Superintendent of Schools and

(More on Page 6)

TO BEGIN IN OCTOBER

Courses for assessors and for municipal secretary-treasurers should be "ready to roll" early in October, Donald A. Bancroft, lecturer in public administration with the Extension Department, University of Alberta, indicated recently. He said the outline of studies for assessors has already been approved and material for study by secretary-treasurers, though still being organized, will be completed soon.



D. A. BANCROFT

"There are no restrictions on enrollment," Mr. Bancroft stated, "although the University makes the usual reservations with regard to the right to postpone enrollment - depending on the number of applicants available." He felt the enrollment this first year could be in the neighborhood of 100.

Mr. Bancroft whose appointment to the position was announced by Duncan Campbell, Director of Extension, in June, was born at Vulcan, Alberta. After completing his high school education in Calgary, he attended the Olds School of Agriculture and the University of Alberta faculty of agriculture, with further graduate studies in political economy.

An accredited appraiser, Canadian Institute, Mr. Bancroft is a member of the Agricultural Institute of Canada, the Alberta Institute of Agrologists, Canadian Agricultural Economics Society and the Association of Assessing Officers of Alberta.

POPULATION STORY

Canada's population at June 1 was 17,048,000 according to the annual estimate of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This represents an increase of 459,000 over the figure a year ago. The previous increase (from June 1/56 to June 1/57) was a record 508,000.

Population estimates by provinces (with last years figure in brackets) and the per cent of Canada's total population in each province at June this year is reported as follows:

Ontario	-	5,803,000	-	(5,622,000)	-	34.04%
Quebec	-	4,884,000	-	(4,758,000)	-	28.65%
B.C.	-	1,544,000	-	(1,487,000)	-	9.06%
Alberta	-	1,201,000	-	(1,160,000)	-	7.05%
Sask.	-	880,000	-	(879,000)	-	5.21%
Man.	-	870,000	-	(860,000)	-	5.10%
N.S.	-	710,000	-	(702,000)	-	4.16%
N.B.	-	577,000	-	(565,000)	-	3.38%
Nfld.	-	438,000	-	(426,000)	-	2.5 %
P.E.I.	-	100,000	-	(99,000)	-	0.59%

Alberta's gain of 41,000 was fourth numerically but percentage-wise this Province's gain of 3.5% was second only to B.C. (3.8% increase). Among the four largest, Alberta was the only province to show a greater percentage increase than in the previous 12 months.

THE SECOND PAGE . . .

WANT TO GO BACK?

Among people who (like us) have been around for some time, the conversation sooner or later drifts back to the "old" days. That time in 1927 or '28 when we won the baseball tournament. Or the record crop twenty years ago. Or the dances they used to hold in Gus Peterson's barn.

Take taxes. In the old days taxes were about \$20 per quarter, but look at them now. This is usually followed by a moment of shocked silence . . . each of the group busy with his memories.

We have memories too. We remember ploughing through mud a yard at a time on almost any rural road, or staying home because it looked a mite like rain. We remember the little old one-roomed schools, each with a barn to accommodate the horses of kids who rode to school. The major items of equipment in such a school consisted of a flag, a globe, a map of Canada, one box of chalk and six black-board erasers. The teacher's salary might go as high as \$840 per year . . . if times were good.

In those days health services were sketchy indeed; and hospitals in large centres were for those who could afford such luxuries. Babies were born at home and, with the aid of a local midwife, nearly always survived. Pre-natal care was left to Mother Nature and post-natal care consisted chiefly of washing behind the ears.

But times and conditions have changed since then. Dirt roads are hard to find. So are little old school houses. Ratepayers no longer work out part of their taxes with a team hitched to a slip or fresno. Children are now picked up at their farm gates and vanned to schools which leave little to be desired in the way of modern equipment. Local services of all kinds have been vastly improved and expanded even during the past few years. So have many of our farms. So, we hesitantly suggest, have living conditions in general.

All these changes and more are a part of PROGRESS. And even if the price we have to pay for it sometimes seems high, we really wouldn't want to go back to the old ways.

Would we?

Being apologists for the high level of taxes on real property is at the bottom of our list of things (or people) we want to be. Nevertheless, when we grow misty-eyed over the good old days, we should recollect some of their disadvantages.

It might help us smile . . . next time we pay our taxes. ●

WHY TOURISTS?

A money problem is like a toothache. When you have one it overrides all else.

This might be the reason why many farmers facing their own financial difficulties still look with jaundiced eye on the costly encouragement being given to the country's tourist industry.

Naturally, those directly involved in the tourist trade stand to make their tidy profit or they wouldn't be in the business, but it can also be a blessing in disguise for the farmer.

W. Gordon Wood, president of the Canadian Tourist Association, made this point recently. He said that about 7,500,000 Americans came by car into Canada last year, to stay for more than two days. If each had been encouraged to remain for just another fifteen minutes to buy a fried egg sandwich, they would have consumed an extra 625,000 dozen eggs, 750,000 loaves of bread and 120,000 pounds of butter.

From the point of view of the farmers this could become pretty big business. Farmers are not generally directly concerned with the tourists themselves, but their moral support for the tourist industry and its development would not be at all misplaced. A tourist is an unusual animal, with a hearty appetite for food and goods, who buys almost anything and competes with the farmers for almost nothing.
- Lamont Municipal and School Gazette.

THE COWBOY'S PRAYER

O Lord, I've never lived where churches grow;
I've loved creation better as it stood
That day you finished it, so long ago,
And looked upon your work and called it good.

Just let me live my life as I've begun;
And give me work that's open to the sky;
Make me a partner of the wind and sun,
And I won't ask a life that's soft and high.

Make me as big and open as the plains;
As honest as the horse between my knees;
Clean as the wind that blows behind the rains;
Free as the hawk that circles down the breeze.

Just keep an eye on all that's done and said;
Just right me sometime when I turn aside;
And guide me on the long, dim trail ahead
That stretches upward towards the Great Divide.
(The Calgary Herald)

THE CHANGING SCENE

<u>VILLAGE OF BLACKFALDS</u>	
Secretary-Treasurer	T. H. Ferguson 5540 - 44 Ave., Red Deer, Alta.
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Secretary-Treasurer	H. A. Blaikie
Mayor	J. Lafleur
<u>VILLAGE OF YOUNGSTOWN</u>	
Secretary-Treasurer	N. R. Van Dam

Before a man can hold an important job, he must learn to hold his temper.

THIS MONTH

SURVEYS for SCHOOL PROBLEMS	
By Dr. J.W. Chalmers, Department of Education	3
HOSPITALIZATION in ALBERTA NOW	
By J.D. Campbell, Department of Health	4
OUTLINE of WELFARE SERVICES	
	5
Liaison Library (Book Review)	6
Secretary's Calendar	7
The Back Fence	8
Municipal Notes (From the Press)	8

The Alberta Municipal Councillor
Published monthly by the Department of Municipal Affairs, Government of the Province of Alberta, the Municipal Councillor is intended to serve those persons who have interested themselves in various aspects of local government. Material may be reprinted without restriction but a credit line is appreciated. No charge is made for the publication, and persons desirous of receiving it should send the request to:

The Alberta Municipal Councillor,
Department of Municipal Affairs,
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AN ADDRESS AT THE JUNE SHORT COURSE, BANFF SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS

SURVEYS FOR SCHOOL PROBLEMS

BY DR. J. W. CHALMERS,
DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION,
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Should our school system provide commercial courses? Where is the best place to centralize school services in the southern part of our area? Should our junior high school grades be integrated with the elementary school or with the senior high school? Should our small high school be replaced with one large regional high school? Where should home economics and industrial arts facilities be located? Should we now embark on a program of building gymnasiums?

These are some of the questions that school boards are asking the Alberta Department of Education. To answer them over the past few years a special departmental service has been developed. This is the school survey. Some years ago, high school inspectors had been responsible for individual schools without particular reference to the administrative unit responsible for these schools. Later each high school inspector became responsible for all high schools within specified administrative units, for example school divisions. Then the inspectors began to pay attention, not just to individual teachers and schools, but to the high school services in the whole school division. On their own initiative they started to make comprehensive studies and prepare reports commending or censuring school boards for their respective achievements and omissions. However, to their disappointment, they often discovered that these studies made little subsequent difference in school board policy. The reason was simple. Unless school boards themselves felt that they had problems, they saw no reason to alter the status quo.

During the same period, of course, there were school boards that sought expert outside advice concerning specific problems. These they posed as questions to the Department. In each particular case, one or more departmental officers would be appointed to study and recommend. From these two types of activities the present system of school surveys has evolved. Five such surveys have been completed during the 1957-58 school year.

Survey Characteristics

The following may now be considered the characteristics of Alberta school surveys:

1. A survey is made only on written request of a school board pursuant to a motion passed at a regular board meeting.
2. In general, only those questions asked by the board will be answered. Sometimes, however, this procedure means that other questions must first be considered.
3. For each survey, a team or committee is appointed. This team usually consists of the high school inspector of the area a member of the Department's school administration staff, and a superintendent. This last member is not from the school authority requesting the survey as the local superintendent usually stands in such a relation with trustees, parents, and teachers that he is not as able to approach the problems as objectively as is a superintendent from a neighboring school system.
4. The survey team may be augmented, by other members of the Departments' staff such as special subject supervisors, field administrative officers, etc., where their special competences may prove valuable.
5. The survey team makes an on-the-spot investigation of school facilities, bus routes, etc. In addition, it requests such other information as seems pertinent -- school enrolments, qualifications of teachers, high school programs, departmental examination results, financial statements, etc.
6. Having gathered all data and information pertinent to the particular problems that the committee is concerned with, its members then thresh out their findings and recommendations.

These recommendations are based not only on educational theory but on a study of the board's ability to pay for their implementation and on sociological -- community, ethnic, religious -- factors, and on topographical considerations such as the presence of unbridged

rivers and other natural barriers. In brief, recommendations must be educationally sound, financially feasible, sociologically desirable, and physically possible.

The recommendations are also specific. For example, the survey team will not recommend "that a centralized school should be established in the south part of the area, either in the Town of 'A' or in the Village of 'B' or in the Hamlet of 'C'". Probably the trustees are already aware of the desirability of such action; they want to know which of the three points is the best. And this the survey team tries to tell them.

One member, usually the chairman of the group, drafts the survey report, which is submitted to the other members for comment. Copies of the final draft, after its release has been approved by the Minister, are sent to the school board concerned and to different offices of the Department.

Although school survey services are free to school boards, they are not cheap. The bare cost of the salaries for personnel involved, travel expenses, subsistence allowances, and secretarial work involved might easily amount to a thousand dollars or more. Consequently, school boards are not encouraged to request such services for minor or trivial reasons.

Two-fold Value

The values of a school survey to a board are at least two-fold, first the survey team provides a fresh, unbiased, and objective look at situations which may have become emotionally charged to those intimately concerned -- the public, parents, trustees, teachers, even the superintendent. For example, when it becomes apparent that two high schools should be centralized to form a single institution, supporters of each of the two small schools are usually and quite honestly unable to see why their own school be closed and the other take over its students and staff. Outsiders -- the survey team -- with no vested interest in either and no emotional involvements, are in a better position to make the relevant recommendations.

Secondly, the report of an outside committee of impartial educational experts may simply recommend a course of action that the school board or superintendent is already convinced is most logical. That different people working from the same information within the same frame of reference should reach the same conclusion is not surprising. But the fact that outside advice corroborates the board's own opinions not only confirm their judgment, it also makes it easier to convince the electors of the soundness of such judgment.

For those most immediately concerned, the value of a school survey as an in-service training experience is self-evident. In addition the high school inspector on the team comes to know his own territory more intimately. The superintendent returns to his superintendency with a standard against which he can compare practices in his own territory. And the school administrative officer can give realistic advice to his Department when requests are received from the surveyed system for building grants or other assistance.

Finally, it should be noted that the survey report is in no way binding on the school board. Its recommendations may be implemented in whole or in part, this year, next year, sometime, or never. •

The MEANING of QUESTIONS

Persons who use the techniques and facilities of modern Public opinion research have the responsibility of slicing issues meaningfully and then of presenting those issues to people in such a way that answers can be reliably interpreted. Even after elaborate testing on the clarity and bias of questions by the most conscientious investigator, many of the items finally included in a study may remain obscure.

- Cantril's "Gauging Public Opinion"

HOSPITALIZATION IN ALBERTA NOW

BY J. D. CAMPBELL, DIRECTOR, HOSPITALS' DIVISION,
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

(Alberta's Hospitalization Benefits Act came into force on April 1, 1958. On June 20 an agreement was signed between the federal government and the Province whereby the former makes a substantial contribution to certain costs of the program as from July 1.

Questions and answers below were the basis of an address delivered by Mr. Campbell at Banff in June. References to residence qualifications have been revised to accord with the new agreement.)

1. WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR HOSPITAL BENEFITS UNDER THE NEW DOMINION-PROVINCIAL HOSPITALIZATION PLAN?

All residents are eligible for hospital benefits. Transients and tourists are excluded, as are persons legally entitled to recover the costs of hospitalization from some other participating province.

Dependents take the residence status of their parent or guardian, and the husband or wife from the residence status of the eligible spouse. The basis of determination of a dependent which is used as a guide is the income tax status of the individual. Any person who is liable to pay taxes in respect of real property in the Province is covered immediately.

2. WHAT IS THE NATURE OF THE HOSPITAL BENEFITS PROVIDED?

The hospital benefits provided under the Alberta Hospitalization Plan include bed accommodation at a standard ward level, meals, use of operating room and delivery room, and treatment and diagnostic services including drugs and surgical supplies which, in the opinion of the attending doctor, are considered necessary for the proper treatment of the ailment for which the individual was admitted to the hospital. Medical services other than the necessary interpretative services arising from the diagnostic procedures carried out are not included. Any medical services not included will be billed directly to the patient by the doctor as in the case of the anaesthetist's fees.

Where the patient on being admitted to hospital requests private or semi-private bed accommodation the patient is responsible for the additional charges made by the hospital for this class of accommodation over and above the charge for standard ward accommodation. Where a patient is admitted to a hospital and does not request private or semi-private accommodation but is placed in this accommodation, either on the direction of the doctor or because other accommodation is not available, then the patient under such circumstances will not be responsible for the additional charge.

3. WHAT IS THE COST TO THE PATIENT?

The individual patient is required to pay a basic amount per patient day referred to as a coinsurance payment which shall be governed as to amount by the size of the hospital. The following rates are applicable:

- (a) in the case of all persons other than newborn infants:
 - (i) In a hospital of 29 beds or less \$1.50 per day
 - (ii) In a hospital of 30 beds, but not less than 90 beds \$1.60 per day
 - (iii) In a hospital of 90 beds, but not less than 180 beds \$1.80 per day
 - (iv) In a hospital of 180 beds or more \$2.00 per day
- (b) In the case of newborn infants in any hospital \$1.00 per day

The above rates roughly approximate the costs per patient day which are entailed as a result of having the patient in hospital.

As previously stated, if the patient requests private or semi-private accommodation, he will be required to pay the additional charge.

4. UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES DOES THE PROVINCE OF

ALBERTA ASSUME THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE RESIDENT'S COINSURANCE?

The Province of Alberta will pay the coinsurance for the following residents:

(a) persons in receipt of a pension or allowance in which the Province participates and who are authorized to hold a hospitalization entitlement card issued by the Department of Public Welfare, and the dependents of such persons;

(b) persons whose hospitalization is authorized by an Arthritis Clinic operated by the Department of Public Health;

(c) persons whose hospitalization has been approved by a Cancer Clinic operated by the Department of Public Health for the first seven days of hospitalization;

(d) persons who have been afflicted by poliomyelitis and are admitted to an approved hospital for treatment as a consequence of being so afflicted.

(e) persons classed as maternity patients for a period up to twelve days together with the newborn for a similar period.

5. WHAT RESTRICTIONS ARE PLACED ON THE ELIGIBLE PERSON AS TO WHAT HOSPITAL HE MAY CHOOSE FOR HIS HOSPITALIZATION?

The individual who is eligible for hospital benefits has a free choice of hospital within the Province of Alberta if the individual, in the opinion of the doctor, requires hospitalization.

Although the freedom of choice of hospital has been given to the individual, it is recognized that there are certain restrictions in regard to distance, availability of beds, attendant waiting lists, and availability of the doctor of the patient's choice which, to a degree, limits the extent to which the individual is able to take advantage of the free choice of hospital which is made available under the Alberta Hospitalization Plan.

6. ARE THERE ANY RESTRICTIONS ON THE LENGTH OF STAY OF THE PATIENT IN HOSPITAL?

If the patient's doctor considers that the patient requires active treatment care, there are no limitations on the length of stay for which the patient is eligible for benefits. As the hospital service provided is active treatment care any eligible patient in hospital who, in the opinion of the Director of Medical Services of the Department of Health, no longer requires active treatment shall cease to be eligible at a date set by the Director of Medical Services.

7. ARE OUTPATIENT SERVICES INCLUDED?

Under the Hospitalization Benefits Act which became operative April 1, 1958, hospital services not requiring the patient to be admitted as an inpatient are not covered. The patient receiving outpatient services is responsible for the total charge for outpatient services on the basis of a schedule of rates determined by the hospital.

8. WHAT MUST A NON-ELIGIBLE PERSON PAY FOR HOSPITALIZATION?

The rates charged by hospitals to non-eligibles are flat rates which cover the same service as is given to the eligible patient at the standard ward level. The rates for standard ward care vary with the size of the hospital as follows:

- (a) In the case of all persons other than newborn infants:
 - (i) In a hospital of 29 beds or less, not less than \$11.00 per day
 - (ii) In a hospital of 30 beds but less than 90 beds, not less than \$11.50 per day
 - (iii) In a hospital of 90 beds but less than 180 beds, not less than \$13.00 per day
 - (iv) In a hospital of 180 beds or more, not less than \$15.00 per day

(More on Page 7)

OUTLINE OF WELFARE SERVICES

CHILD WELFARE

Full cost of maintenance of children who become wards of the government are paid by the Provincial Department of Public Welfare as a result of amendments to the Child Welfare Act passed at the last session of the Alberta Legislature. Previously, costs were shared by both municipalities and government, with the municipality paying 40 percent. Annual saving to Alberta municipalities is estimated at \$674,000.

Municipalities retain the responsibility of investigating all cases of neglected children. In the event a child is removed from the custody of his parents, departmental welfare workers assist in an endeavor to rehabilitate families in order that their children may be returned to their care. Where all efforts fail, steps are taken to secure the children's future by placing them in selected families, with a view to adoption.

Counselling services have been extended to unmarried expectant mothers. Advice and assistance is provided in all cases whether the mother wishes to raise the child, or surrender it for adoption.

MOTHERS' ALLOWANCE

More comprehensive financial aid with cost fully borne by the Provincial Government, to mothers demonstrating need of financial assistance was approved by the last session of the Alberta Legislature. The former Mothers' Allowance Act was repealed and a new act was passed, taking effect May 1.

Under the new legislation the Province assumes full cost of the assistance program, relieving municipalities of the 20 per cent share they previously were required to pay. Residence qualifications are also altered. Applicants must have resided anywhere in the Province for the two previous years. Proof of residence within the municipality no longer is required.

Eligibility for aid has been broadened to include wives of men sentenced to imprisonment for two years or longer, and wives left in desertion for two or more years. A woman who has been living in marital relation with a man for two years or longer and to whom she has borne a child, may be declared a widow for purposes of the Act.

Applications for aid will continue to be treated on an individual basis. In addition to financial circumstances, other factors taken into account include status of husband before death, pensions from other sources, number of dependent children, and other related matters. Provision has been made to allow municipal secretary-treasurers to continue receiving applications and to make appropriate inquiries into the history and circumstances of an applicant. Application also may be made directly to the Pensions Board, or to a welfare worker of the Department of Public Welfare.

Total cost of the new program will be met from an appropriation of \$1,574,000 for the current fiscal year which began April 1. This is an increase of \$286,000 over the comparable appropriation made in the 1957-58 fiscal year.

PUBLIC WELFARE

Eighty percent of the cost of maintaining Alberta residents who find themselves in need will be borne by the Provincial Department of Public Welfare as a result of amendments to the Public Welfare Act during the last session of the Alberta Legislature. The grant paid to municipalities was increased by 20 percent and will amount to approximately \$325,000.

Right of the Provincial Government to recover any moneys expended on behalf of such persons was rescinded.

Rehabilitation program restoring disabled persons to their maximum physical, mental, vocational and economic usefulness has been expanded by the Department's Rehabilitation Branch.

HOMES for the AGED and INFIRM

Establishment of homes for the aged in Alberta municipalities is easier as result of amendments to the Home for the Aged and Infirm Act approved at the last sitting of the Alberta legislature.

The previous requirement demanding title to any such home being vested in a single municipality has been changed to permit ownership of a home also being held by a company. This permits easier co-operative effort by municipalities participating in construction and operation of a single home. The company board may be made up of representatives from the co-operating municipalities, and each municipality may finance its share through sale of debentures.

Under the new system, the grant from the Provincial Government may be payable to the company instead of only to one responsible municipality as formerly.

Financial assistance for such homes has been materially increased under amendments to the act. Grant for construction of a new building is on a per capita basis at the rate of \$1500 for facilities provided to maintain each resident housed in the home.

For reconverted structures the grant is based on the rate of one third the cost of conversion, or \$750 for each 200 square feet of occupied floor space, whichever is the lesser. Structural additions to existing buildings are considered reconversions under the act.

All plans are subject to ministerial approval prior to commencement of construction. Grants are payable in three instalments. The first follows commencement of framing operations, the second at approximately mid-point in construction and the final portion when the building is ready for occupancy.

(Note: The above outlines are from news releases distributed some time ago by the Publicity Bureau, Department of Economic Affairs. They are used here in the event you missed them previously.) ●

TRAINING COURSES NEAR READINESS

(From Page 1)

The fees for each term, which cover all instructional costs, texts, and supplementary materials are set at \$60.00 per student. The fee may be paid in small installments if that is desired.

The prescribed texts for the assessment course are:

Hanson, Eric J. Local Government in Alberta, McClelland & Stewart, Toronto, 1956; Groves, Harold M. Financing Government, Harvey Holt & Co., 3rd Ed., N.Y. 1952; Crawford, K. G. Canadian Municipal Government, University of Toronto press, Toronto, 1954. The Appraisal of Real Estate, 2nd edition, Chicago, American Institute of Real Estate Appraisers, 1952; Selected Soil Survey Reports for Alberta; The Assessment Manual; Selected Statutes of Alberta and Selected Technical Reports and Informational publications of the provincial and federal government departments.

OUTLINE of FIRST YEAR

The following subjects are to be included in the First Year session:

1. Local Government and Autonomy - kinds of local government.

(More on Page 6)

SASKATCHEWAN LOWERS HOSPITAL TAX

Saskatoon - Saskatchewan residents will pay less hospital-care tax under the national insurance plan when it takes effect in 1959, Premier T.C. Douglas announced recently.

The 1959 hospital tax for single persons will be \$17.50 and \$35 for a married couple. There will be no charge for dependent children. The hospital tax levied in the past was \$20 for single persons and \$45 a family.

In announcing the new 1959 tax, Mr. Douglas said it compares favorably with Manitoba which charges single persons \$24.60 and \$49.20 for a family. Ontario's rate for single persons is \$25.20 and \$50.40 for families.

Mr. Douglas added: "You will be glad to know that we have decided against following the example of Alberta and British Columbia. Persons entering hospital in Saskatchewan will not be charged a deterrent fee." - Edmonton Journal

TRAINING COURSES NEAR READINESS

(From Page 5)

2. The Property Tax Base and Value for assessment purposes.
3. The Assessment and Tax Rolls.
4. Statutes, Legislations and Suggestions.
5. The Assessor - his responsibility, his authority, his role in the community.
6. Soil Zones in Alberta.
7. Soil Texture - Classification and Techniques.
8. Profile classification and subsoil variations.
9. Topography and Stoniness factors in land inspection and rating.
10. Rating of factors of irrigated land.
11. Timber factor in land inspection and rating.
12. Miscellaneous factors in land inspection and rating.
13. Classification and mapping of arable sectors.
14. Classification and mapping of irrigable sectors.
15. Location factors in farm land assessment.
16. Building Classification and use of schedules and assessment of fixtures, accessories, trim and finish.
17. Depreciation allowances - physical deterioration, Functional and Economic Obsolescence.
18. Site Valuation in Urban Assessments.
19. Tax and Assessment Exemptions.

That is the covering for the first year. It is heavily weighted with practical inspection procedure and particularly with the problems of farm land assessment. This apparent imbalance will be corrected in the second and third years.

SECOND YEAR

The Second Year outline is as follows:

1. Principles of Taxation.
2. Using the Statutes.
3. Municipal Affairs in Alberta.
4. History of Local Government in Alberta.
5. Local Taxes and Assessments in Alberta.
6. Quality of Assessment work.
7. Determination of Assessments.
8. Complaints and Appeals.
9. Revision in the Assessment Roll.
10. Land Survey and Use of Land Titles Office.
11. Aerial Photographs and Soil Surveys.
12. Land Use in Alberta.
13. Farm Business and Operating Statements.
14. Land Markets.
15. Urban and Industrial Developments.
16. Building Site Values.
17. Railway, Pipeline and Electric Power Properties.
18. Price Analysis and Cost Conversions.
19. Fixtures, Personal Property and Equipment Licenses.
20. Business Taxes - assessment problems.

THIRD YEAR

In the third year the appraisal process is spelled out in successive steps. These lessons are taken directly from the appraisal text.

Third Year topics are these:

1. What is property?
2. What is value?
3. The marginal theory and highest and least uses.
4. Rent determination.
5. Interest rate determination.
6. Appraisals - their nature and purpose.
7. Market Analysis.
8. Cost Analysis.
9. Income Analysis.
10. The Capitalization Process.
11. Amortization.
12. Capitalization and Amorization.
13. Capitalization Rates.
14. Use of capitalization and discount tables.
15. The Appraisal Process.
16. Comparative or Market Approach.
17. Cost Approach.
18. Income Approach.
19. Correlation.
20. Leasehold Valuations.

* * * *

Doctor: "How's the man who swallowed the spoon?"
Nurse: "He can hardly stir."

BANFF SCHOOL MEET

(From Page 1)

under the Director of School Administration. Dr. Chalmers pointed out that although there is no charge to school authorities for this service, United States school boards are accustomed to paying hundreds and even thousands of dollars for similar services.

In a second talk, Dr. Chalmers discussed new legislation affecting schools, particularly amendments to the School Act and the School Buildings Assistance Act.

Mr. U.R. Shogren, Field Administrative Officer of the Department, spoke on a voucher system of accounting for school offices. Essentially, this system bases school accounting on revenues and expenditures rather than receipts and payments, and gives a much truer picture of a board's current financial position than does a system of accounting based on receipts and payments.

Mr. D.R. Cameron, Registrar of the Department, dealt with documentation of teacher qualifications, essential in establishing teacher pay-rolls. Approximately one-third of Alberta's teachers are trained outside the province. These teachers bring to Alberta a wide range of professional qualifications, varying both in the level of training they represent and the school grades for which they are valid certificates. It is essential that such certificates must be examined by the Registrar's office, both to determine the salaries to which their holders are entitled and to assign them to proper positions in the school system.

Mr. S.A. Earl, Co-ordinator of Teacher Education, spoke on teacher recruitment. Although most of his talk concerned teacher-training bursaries, internship programs, and student loans, he concluded by pointing out that securing and retaining good teachers involves selective recruitment, and in-service education.

For certain periods, secretaries and trustees held separate meetings. The latter gave attention to such matters as caretakers' salaries, school bus ownership, salary negotiations between teachers and school authorities, merit rating for teachers, and supervisory and administrative duties of principals and vice-principals. Secretaries were concerned with implementation of voucher system of accounting, certification of school secretaries, and the usual business of their own association.

High light of the program was the annual banquet, addressed by Grant McEwan, M.L.A., Calgary, who delivered an inspiring address on Canadian heroes.

LIAISON LIBRARY

BOOK REVIEW

TAXATION IN CANADA

By J. Harvey Perry

(University of Toronto Press 382 pp)

TAXATION IN CANADA remains the only volume to present under one cover a complete description of the Dominion, provincial, and municipal tax structure in Canada. The principal tax sources at the three levels of government are described briefly and readably, with enough detail to be of value to the student or expert but at the same time enough attention to broader aspects to be of interest to the general reader.

In the description of the present Dominion taxes particular attention is devoted to the income tax, but there are also chapters on succession duties, the tariff, the sales tax, and on the excise taxes and duties. Provincial taxes discussed in detail include corporation taxes, succession duties, gasoline, sales, and other consumption taxes, liquor and motor vehicle revenues, and revenues from the public domain, including forestry and mining. Other chapters deal with municipal property tax and sources of local revenue, and a special chapter describes the tax structure in Newfoundland. Of equal interest also are the chapters dealing with the enactment and administration of the tax laws.

"... a complete reference book which brings into vivid focus entire tax structure of the country. Although it is written in layman language, the style is authoritative and direct. Even the casual reader should be impressed immediately by the author's success in turning out a dependable text without resorting to the jargon of the expert or the dull language of the statute. . . . It is intended to be read as tax literature as well as serving as a tax reference which does not require legal or accountancy training to understand."

HOSPITALIZATION in ALBERTA NOW (From Page 4)

- (b) In the case of newborn infants in any hospital,
not less than \$ 3.00 per day

In addition to the above flat rate, the non-eligible patient is responsible for a daily capital cost payment of not less than the daily rate established by Ministerial Order for the approved hospital in which the patient is hospitalized. Similar to the resident, the non-eligible patient is responsible for the additional charge for private or semi-private accommodation.

9. WHAT BENEFITS IS A RESIDENT OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA ENTITLED TO RECEIVE OUTSIDE OF THE PROVINCE?

A resident and his dependents qualify for hospitalization benefits in hospitals outside of the Province where the treatment received is an emergency or referred case, or where the hospital in which the patient is hospitalized is more readily accessible than one of the approved hospitals of Alberta providing the resident does not break his Alberta residence.

Under the Dominion-Provincial hospitalization plan which became effective in Alberta on July 1, 1958, any person at that time who was a resident of Alberta, but who ceases to reside in Alberta and assumes residence in a Province that has entered into and is operating under a hospitalization agreement with the Government of Canada, shall be eligible for hospital benefits in a recognized active treatment hospital outside of the Province for the period of time required to become eligible in that Province for hospitalization benefits therein, if he had applied for eligibility therefor immediately upon becoming a resident of that Province.

The amounts which will be paid for hospital benefits of residents of Alberta to areas outside of the Province of Alberta shall not exceed the amounts that would be paid by the Department of Health if the resident had been hospitalized in a hospital of equivalent size and facilities in Alberta while a resident of Alberta.

10. WHAT CONDITIONS WOULD CONSTITUTE AN EMERGENCY CASE OUTSIDE OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA?

An emergency case means a person eligible for benefits under the plan in Alberta who, while temporarily away from Alberta, becomes acutely ill and needs active treatment hospital care, but, because of his condition is incapable of returning to a hospital in Alberta.

Temporarily away means being absent from Alberta on holiday, visit, educational or business engagement with the intention of returning to Alberta. Any absence from Alberta of longer than twelve consecutive months is not considered as temporarily away, with the following exceptions:

- (a) a person who leaves Alberta for the express purpose of furthering his education and who is not gainfully employed outside Alberta except with vacation employment;
- (b) a member of the Canadian Armed Forces who was a resident of Alberta at the time of his enlistment.

Emergency care does not provide coverage for those women who leave Alberta with the intention of taking maternity hospitalization in a hospital outside Alberta.

11. WHAT CONDITIONS WOULD CONSTITUTE A REFERRED CASE OUTSIDE OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA?

A referred case means a person, eligible for benefits in the Province, who has been referred outside Alberta by an Alberta doctor for treatment of a condition which has been approved by the College of Physicians and Surgeons.

12. WHAT STEPS MUST A RESIDENT HOSPITALIZED OUTSIDE OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA TAKE IN CLAIMING FOR HOSPITALIZATION BENEFITS?

1. Persons wishing to claim benefits should write for Form PH HD 84 to:
Director,
Hospitals Division,
Department of Public Health,
Administration Building,
EDMONTON, Alberta.

2. After the Form is filled out, it should be sent back to the Director

of the Hospitals Division with the following attachments:

- (a) A copy of your hospital account which should show the admission and discharge dates, the amounts charged and paid.
- (b) A letter from the doctor who attended you stating the need for admission to hospital.

3. When the hospital account has been paid in full or part, the payment by the Department will be sent to the individual or to the hospital and individual, depending upon the amount paid on the account;

4. When no payment has been made on the account then the payment made by the Department will be sent directly to the hospital;

5. Evidence of payment on a hospital account will only be accepted if the account bears the hospital's receipted stamp or if official hospital receipts are submitted with the hospital account. ●

SECRETARY'S



CALENDAR

Municipal District Act

Every Month

5th - Within 5 days after the end of each month secretary-treasurer shall prepare statement of moneys received and their disposition, submit to council at next meeting and enter in the minutes. Sec. 61(v).

Sept. 15 - On or before this day secretary-treasurer shall enter in the assessment and tax roll a statement of all taxes. Sec. 335.
Secretary-treasurer shall mail notices. Sec. 347.

Secretary-treasurer shall mail notification of estimated assistance by the Province to all ratepayers. Sec. 347a.

Secretary-treasurer may distrain if taxes unpaid one month after mailing notice. Sec. 357.

Sept. 15 - Council shall pay quarterly installment of school requisition. Sec. 338.

Sept. 15 - Council shall pay quarterly installment of requisition under Hospitalization Benefits Act. Sec. 11(2).

Sept. 30 - Council shall pay quarterly installment of requisition under the Municipal Hospital Act. Sec. 112(5).

Town and Village Act

Every Month

15th - Secretary-treasurer shall prepare statement of moneys received and their disposition, submit to council at next meeting and enter in minutes. Sec. 67(r).

Sept. 1 - On or before this date secretary-treasurer shall prepare a tax roll and mail tax notices. Sec. 368, 370.

Sept. 1 - Summer village councillors assume office first Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Sec. 23(4) (c).

Prior to Sept. 10 - Post list of names to be added to voters list. Sec. 121(1).

Sept. 10 - Appoint Returning Officer 2 weeks before the 4th Wednesday in September. Sec. 127(1).

Sept. 15 - Third quarter of school requisition due. Sec. 355(1).

Sept. 15 - Third quarter of hospitalization benefits requisition due. (Sec. 11(2) Hospitalization Benefits Act).

Sept. 17 - Post notice of nomination meeting. Sec. 129(2).

Sept. 24 - Nomination meeting. Sec. 129(1).

Sept. 25 - Post notice of Poll (if required). Sec. 137.

Sept. 30 - Third quarter of municipal hospital requisition due. (Sec. 112(5) Municipal Hospital Act).

Assessment Act

Sept. 1 - Personal property assessment shall be made not later than this date. Sec. 19. ●

* * * *

Never make the same mistake twice. Make a new one.

FIFTY YEARS OF AGE



HALF CENTURY MARK OBSERVED - The records show that Stony Plain became a village on March 14, 1907, and on December 10, 1908, moved up to town status. Last June 30 more than 4,000 people gathered to commemorate the day and to pay tribute to the pioneers who started the town. The big day began with a parade, but due to heavy rain, the program was continued in the town's spacious community centre. In addition to many fine musical numbers, addresses were delivered by Mayor Kulak; Harold McLaughlin, MLA; Mrs. C. R. Wood, former MLA and Mayor of Stony Plain; and Hon. Gordon Taylor, Minister of Highways. Mrs. Wood helped to unveil two oil paintings showing early days in town and Emile Fielhauber also a former Mayor, read a list of pioneers.

LICENSE BRANCH CHANGES

Reorganization of the Equipment Licensing section of the Department of Municipal Affairs has recently been completed. Formerly with the Assessment Branch, the Licensing Office is now under the Accounts Branch. Officials explain that the transfer has been under consideration for some time because of the closer relationship existing between the work of the Licensing section and the Accounts Branch.

The three licensing Acts of special interest to Albertan municipalities are The Mobile Construction Equipment Licensing Act, The Seismographic Recording and Drilling Equipment Licensing Act and The Mobile Homes Licensing Act. These three Acts were passed at the request of officials of Alberta's municipalities. The first two became effective on January 1, 1954, while The Mobile Homes Licensing Act has been in force since April 1, 1957.

All but five per cent of the revenues collected by the Department under the first two Acts is distributed among the municipalities in which the units of equipment operated during the preceding year according to the time spent in each district. In the case of The Mobile Homes Licensing Act, the total of all revenue so collected is pro-rated on the same basis.

A further change in the administration of the first two Acts is that the various types of equipment are now evaluated for licensing purposes by an official of the Field Service Branch. The Inspection staff, formerly a part of the Equipment Licensing Office, is now a part of the Field Service Branch also. The new location is on the second floor of the centre wing, Highways Building.

WHO COLLECTS CAPITAL COSTS? (See other Questions and Answers on Page 4)

A question was raised in the discussion period (at Banff) as to the manner in which the responsibility for patient day capital costs would be determined where the patient is a ratepayer in two different municipalities and rents accommodation in a third municipality. Under the above conditions if the individual has resided for 12 months in the municipality where he is renting property, then the responsibility in regard to capital costs is the responsibility of the municipality in which he resides.

Where he has not resided for 12 months in the municipality where he is renting the property, then the responsibility for the capital costs on hospitalization is the municipality in which he is a taxpayer. The question arises as to the determination of the municipality which is responsible. We have been meeting this particular question on the basis of the municipality indicated by the patient in which he is a taxpayer as being the responsible party irrespective of whether or not he is also a taxpayer in another municipality. In other words, the patient is requested to state the municipality in which he is a taxpayer and only one municipality is referred to.

- J. D. Campbell.

MUNICIPAL NOTES FROM THE PRESS

SHELTERBELT AT REDWATER - Two thousand trees and shrubs, first of what is hoped will be many shelterbelts designed expressly for the protection of game birds, is reported doing nicely on the farm of Al Strilchuk near Redwater, oil centre 60 miles northeast of Edmonton. The project is the result of joint action by Mr. Strilchuk, the Alberta Fish and Game Association and the Department of Lands and Forests.

John Stelfox, department game biologist, says 75 to 90 per cent of pheasants and roughly half of the Hungarian partridges introduced into Central Alberta were lost during the severe winter of 1955-56. He says pheasants will seldom travel more than a few hundred yards from cover to procure food.

* * * *

FROM SLOUGH to PARK - Ponoka and district will have a community park that will be "a credit" to the town when development of 11 acres of slough land is completed some years from now. The project was undertaken three years ago by the local Lion's Club. Surface water was drained about ten years ago through a ditch constructed by the town council, but low lying swampy land remained. A splendid example of the cooperative spirit, the future park was purchased by the Town and work was pushed by the service club with aid in the form of heavy machinery by the County of Ponoka. Plans call for picnic areas, a children's playground, tennis courts, artificial lakes, a ball diamond and a band shell.

* * * *

ARTIFICIAL ICE - Proprietary electors recently endorsed the proposal of the Town of Coleman to instal artificial ice in the local skating rink and using \$30,000 of surplus funds from the Coleman Water and Light Company, the town-owned utility firm. The vote was 125 to 90.

* * * *

UP TO COUNCIL - Whether or not to the Sturgeon River Municipal District will adopt the County system was left for decision to the municipal council after about 175 ratepayers discussed the move at Bon Accord in June. At present the council seat is in North Edmonton, while the school board operates out of Morinville.

* * * *

MORE CIVIC SPIRIT - Bankers, farmers, doctors, lawyers, mine owners and mine laborers of Drumheller worked side by side with their own shovels recently to move 2,000 yards of dirt and spread 3,000 yards of gravel. The result? A hillside road a mile and a half in length which eliminates 15 miles from the 35-mile Dinosaur Trail and adds eight miles of badlands scenery to the city's attraction for tourists.



THE BACK FENCE

McLennan, Alberta.

Dear Sirs:

I was very interested in the recent review of the volume "Guide to Community Action".

If it is possible for a person residing outside of Edmonton to obtain this book for three weeks, I would be pleased to receive it.

Yours truly,
W.C. Kirkland,
Mayor.

* We're glad to be of service to Albertans in or outside of Edmonton. Volume you requested is on its way. -Ed.

* * * *

Sir: Somewhere along the line those digits (near the end of my article "The Form and the Formula" appearing on Page 5 in the July issue of The COUNSELLOR) were transposed. The "1945 replacement costs as established by the Assessment Equalization Board" were moved ahead nine years.

You got the right year on the next page. Why pick on me?
T.D. Bruce

* Our apologies, Don. No discrimination intended. You've no idea how tricky typewriters can be. Ed.

The correspondence section of The Alberta Municipal Counsellor is open to any reader for the discussion of any problem. Questions raised will be answered to the best of our ability. Letters may be signed with a fictitious name if that is desired, but we would ask that the real name of any correspondent be disclosed to the editor. All letters will be answered, but space and general interest must be considered for publication.